

# STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC FACILITIES

CENTRAL REGION - PLANNING

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September 21, 2004

Ms. Janice Shilanski, Coordinator  
Dillingham Bike Path Coalition  
P.O. Box 165  
Dillingham, AK 99576

Subject: Comments on Draft Revision to Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan

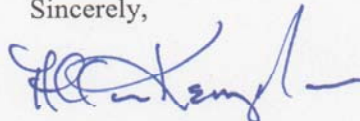
Dear Ms. Shilanski:

Thank you for your comments received on August 6 concerning the Dillingham Coastal Trail Construction and the Wood River Road Reconstruction. The Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (DOT&PF) is currently revising the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan in response to a recent court order that directed DOT&PF to halt all work on the Iliamna-Nondalton road and bridge project until the economic costs and benefits are considered in the next revision of the Southwest Plan. We are undertaking such a revision, extracting two projects from the previously defined baseline for the Southwest Plan, the Iliamna-Nondalton and the Dillingham-Aleknagik corridor projects, and subjecting them to the evaluation process used to assess other projects in the Southwest Alaska Transportation Plan. This limited revision of the Plan does not relate directly to either the construction of the Dillingham Coastal Trail Construction or the reconstruction of Wood River Road.

However, DOT&PF has also recently started the 2006-2008 State Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) process, which may re-examine the need and priority for extending the Dillingham Coastal Trail from Shannon's Pond to the intersection of Waskey Road and for the Wood River Road Reconstruction project. We encourage you to work with your local government to nominate this project. Your comments on these projects is greatly appreciated

Thank you again for your input.

Sincerely,



Allen Kemplen, AICP  
Southwest Area Planner

/eh